

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIPOL 00979 161329Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02  
SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /070 W  
-----053712 161756Z /43

R 161200Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5663  
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
USCINCEUR

LIMITED OFFICIAL US TRIPOLI 0979

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PEPR, ET, LY  
SUBJECT: LIBYAN FOREIGN SECRETARY'S VIEWS ON ERITREA

REF: KHARTOUM 3130 (DTG 130746Z JUL 78)

1. FOREIGN SECRETARY TURAYKI'S COMMENTS TO SUDAN NEWS AGENCY  
JULY 11 CONTAIN REITERATION OF LIBYA'S CURRENT POLICY ON  
ERITREA AS WELL AS ONE NEW POINT. LIBYAN LEADERS HAVE  
ALWAYS BEEN FRANK IN ADMITTING THAT THEIR SUPPORT FOR  
MENGISTU'S REGIME IS BASED ON BELIEF THAT A "PROGRESSIVE"  
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT IN ADDIS ABABA WOULD HELP ALL OF THE  
MOSLEMS IN ETHIOPIA AND NOT JUST THOSE RESIDING IN ERITREA  
AND TIGRE. AS CONCOMITANT OF THIS POLICY, LIBYA HAS ALSO  
REPEATEDLY DEMANDED THAT ERITREAN ISSUE BE SOLVED PEACEABLY.  
QADHAFI REPORTEDLY RENEWED HIS "DEMAND" FOR A PEACEFUL  
INTERNAL SOLUTION TO THE ERITREAN QUESTION IN A LETTER  
CONVEYED TO MENGISTU BY LIBYAN INFORMATION SECRETARY  
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ZUWAYY ON JUNE 14, AND TURAYKI'S REMARKS TO SUNA  
SEEM TO BE CONSISTENT WITH CURRENT LIBYAN POLICY.

2. NEW POINT IN TURAYKI'S INTERVIEW, HOWEVER, IS  
HIS SUPPORT FOR THE "RED SEA AS AN ARAB SEA." WHILE  
THIS WAS A KEY LIBYAN POLICY DURING HAILE SELASSIE'S  
ERA, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IN RECENT MEMORY THAT

IMPORTANT LIBYAN DIGNITARY HAS REPEATED THIS ASSERTION.  
SINCE THE RISE OF THE DIRGUE, LIBYA HAS LARGELY  
IGNORED THIS PHRASE IN RESPONSE TO ETHIOPIA'S  
SENSITIVITY TO THE RED SEA ISSUE. LIBYA'S REVERSION  
TO ITS FORMER POSITION WOULD BE AN INDICATION OF A  
NEW CHASM IN LIBYAN/ETHIOPIAN SOLIDARITY, AS IT WOULD  
SUGGEST LIBYAN SUPPORT FOR ERITREA'S RETENTION OF ALL  
IMPORTANT COASTAL REGIONS IN ANY FUTURE NEGOTIATED  
SETTLEMENT. IT SHOULD BE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT THIS  
PARTICULARL INTERVIEW NOT YET REPORTED BY LOCAL MEDIA,  
ALTHOUGH TURAYKI'S OTHER SPEECHES AND ACTIVITIES IN  
KHARTOUM ARE BEING CLOSELY FOLLOWED.  
CARLE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978TRIPOL00979  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 78 KHARTOUM 3130  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**SAS ID:** 1992558  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LIBYAN FOREIGN SECRETARY'S VIEWS ON ERITREA  
**TAGS:** PEPR, ET, LY  
**To:** STATE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014